



## Senior Syndicate Newsletter, Term 1, 2022

Wednesday 2nd February, 2022

Kia ora koutou,

Welcome to 2022. We are all very excited to be back and can't wait to get to know your child as we support them in their learning journey. This year we welcome Mitch Bialy and Caitlin Steere to our syndicate. Mitch will be the kaiako in Rūma Rua and Caitlin in Rūma Toru. Nicole Galuszka and Jacqui Brown will share Rūma Whā and Cathy Hegarty is back as our fabulous release teacher across all three classrooms. We all look forward to welcoming new whānau to our syndicate and catching up with whānau who are with us again for 2022.

Summer is here! Please ensure that your child comes to school each and every day with their **school pōtae (sunhat)**. It is also the season for shorts (no track pants) and sandals.

Please encourage your tamariki to wear the **correct school uniform**. If they need another layer to get to and from school, please ensure that it is a jacket (no hoodies please). We really appreciate your support in this. If your child is not wearing the correct school uniform for any reason, please send your child to school with a note.

Please see below for a breakdown of the **curriculum for Term Tahi** and what your child will be learning.

### Virtue Focus

Our school's virtue focus this term is **Tumanako (Hope)**, which is very fitting given our current situation in Aotearoa. We will work this term to explore all the different ways that people show hope. This virtue links beautifully to our learning about Te Tiriti o Waitangi, learning from our past in order to build for a positive future. We will also explore the ways that students can build a feeling of tumanako in both their learning and about how they feel about the ever changing world in which we live today.



### Health: Mindfulness

This term we are going to work to introduce the students to a **wide variety of mindfulness strategies**. Each week there will be a different strategy introduced for the children to trial. The aim is for each child to find the strategies that work best for them, supporting them to resettle to learning when they are feeling unhappy or anxious. We hope that these techniques support our tamariki to feel more secure in these uncertain times.



### Te Reo Maori and Māoritanga

Māoritanga will continue to be integrated into our daily programme with links being made to Matauranga Māori and the knowledge that our ancestors passed onto us to help us understand the world. Whaea Tia will be working alongside all Kaiako (teachers) exploring whakapapa (relationships) and the importance of tikanga (values and protocols).

### Religious Education

In the first four weeks, we look at the **Charism of our school**. This unit includes looking at what makes our school special, the history of our church and how we can all make a contribution to making Our Lady of the Rosary a great place to be. We then learn about **Lent**, examining how we are preparing for Easter and can do many good things in this time.





Our amazing Culture Group will take a slightly different form this term as we navigate the new red traffic light restrictions.

The **Renovation Rosary** unit will explore our connections to church and how we view our church of the future.

Towards the end of the term, we begin preparing for the arrival of **Easter**, learning about **Holy Week**.

### Integrated Inquiry



In the Senior syndicate, all learning is integrated. This means that our inquiry learning is woven through literacy, social studies, history, health and the arts.

This term we are learning to be **Where are you from, you are welcome here**. This inquiry unit explores the idea that we belong to many different groups both within our community, kura and whānau. Students will inquire into their own connections, learning their pepeha and working to build a growing understanding of the importance of **Te Tiriti o Waitangi** and how knowing about the past can create a pathway to a positive future. Students will learn about the story of Ranginui and Papatuanuku, the story of creation and how we stand today between Ranginui and Papatuanuku.

Towards the end of the term we embark on a project called **Renovation Rosary**. In this project we imagine, plan and design what our church of the future would be like. How can the building support the needs of everyone in our community and what do we need from our church for it to continue to be a place of refuge for us all?

### Maths

Our Mathematical learning starts with learning about **number sense**. We learn about the many different ways we can view numbers, looking at place value, ways we can compare and add numbers. In week 4 we begin **exploring number and operations** with a particular focus of addition and subtraction. Students will then learn the important skills of position and orientation in our **Geometry** unit at the end of the term.

Throughout the term students will participate in targeted maths teaching and problem solving groups. The problem solving is a fabulous opportunity for students to make the connection to maths in the world today and to work alongside their peers in a positive learning setting.

This term we are trialing a new online maths programme called **Matific**. Once each student has completed the digital treaty in their classroom they will have access to this programme. Please ask them to show you Matific - it is a really fun and engaging platform that we hope the students love using.



### Literacy: Reading, Writing, Oral Language and Spelling

Students will continue to read and write daily through independent activities and guided lessons. Wherever possible, reading and writing links to our inquiry **Connected Tangata - Where are you from, you are welcome here**.

Throughout the term we begin our new spelling programme, learning about the different spelling patterns found in the middle of words.

Please support your child's literacy development by reading with them each night or making time for them to read. Shared reading is a fun way to enjoy a novel together and a lovely way to conclude the day.

### The Arts

Cathy Hegarty will be continuing to lead the visual arts across our syndicate. Ākonga will also look to develop a visual pepeha and a self portrait.



During our learning about **Te Tiriti o Waitangi**, students will celebrate their learning by creating a digital book that retells the events that lead up to forming and



signing of Te Tiriti.

Lucy Ryan will continue to lead our Choir - Nga Manu Waiata, Ukulele groups and Senior Syndicate singing. Again, these groups will look a little different as we work through the red traffic light restrictions.

## Physical Education

This term we start with refreshing and refining our **ball skills**, focusing on developing skills for sports like Netball, Rugby (Touch), Long Ball and Danish Rounders.

Towards the end of the term we will be **planning for swimming lessons at Huia Pool**. More information will be sent out to you later in the term.

From Tuesday 15th February onwards, please send your child to school with their PE uniform for sport. Syndicate Sport will be every Tuesday.



## Digital Citizenship

An important aspect of our learning programme this term will be working with the students to **unpack and understand the digital citizenship treaty**. This is the treaty that each child signs, acknowledging that they will use our school chromebooks in a **responsible and safe manner**. Unpacking this treaty will be completed before any child is allowed to use the class chromebooks. A **Signme form** will be sent home in the next few weeks asking you to agree to support your child in maintaining safe digital citizenship practices.



As always, if you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher.

Ngā mihi nui

Jacqui Brown, Caitlin Steere, Mitchell Bialy, Nicole Galuszka and Cathy Hegarty  
**Senior Syndicate Kaiako**

Rūma Wha: [Jacqui@olr.school.nz](mailto:Jacqui@olr.school.nz) and [Nicole@olr.school.nz](mailto:Nicole@olr.school.nz)  
Rūma Toru: [Caitlin@olr.school.nz](mailto:Caitlin@olr.school.nz)  
Rūma Rua: [Mitchellb@olr.school.nz](mailto:Mitchellb@olr.school.nz)  
Release Teacher: [Cathy@olr.school.nz](mailto:Cathy@olr.school.nz)